(c) The quantity of wheat purchased by private parties is not maintained in the Department. However the notification titled "Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies of Firms of Individuals) Order 2007" issued under the essential Commodities act, 1955 on 1-3-2007 provides that any Company or Firm of individual who purchases wheat beyond 50,000 tonnes during 2007-08 shall furnish to the Central Government a return indicating the name/address of the company, quantity of wheat purchased and quantity of wheat held in stock. The information furnished by Companies/Firms/ Individuals as per this notification is given in the statement (See below).

Statement

Details of Companies or Firms or individuals who have purchased Wheat under the Wheat (Stock Declaration) Order, 2007

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Date of Filing return	Purchases declared (in MT)
1.	ITC Ltd. Secunderabad Andhra Pradesh	4-5-2007	261,007
2.	Cargill India Pvt.Ltd. Gurgaon, Haryana	3-5-2007	170.881
3.	AWB India Pvt. Ltd.	27-4-2007	69,013

Essential Commodities through FPSs

4024. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the items of foodgrains and other essential commodities which are being distributed to the consumers through Fair Price Shops against ration cards ;

(b) whether Government have any plan to include pulses and edible oils in the list of items in view of rise in prices of these items;

(c) if so, from when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene oil are distributed through Fair Price Shops against Ration Cards, Some States also distribute additional non-PDS items of mass consumption such as exercise books, pulses, iodised salt, tea etc. through the FPSs.

(b) to (d) This subject is presently under consideration of the Government.

Shortage of palm oil

4025. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of palm oil in the country; and

(b) if so, the action taken to ensure its adequate supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Selling of expired imported stuffs

†4026. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE :
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS :
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that 90 per cent of the stuffs like chocolates, biscuits, wafers, chips etc. imported from foreign countries are being sold after lapse of their expiry period and due to this the health of the consumers is being adversely affected ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by Government to check this practice ?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.